

**c.) Amendments to the Claims.**

Please cancel claims 1-4, amend claims 5 and 6, and add new claims 7-9, as follows, all without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter thereof.

Claims 1-4. (canceled).

Claim 5. (currently amended) A peptide ~~fragment as claimed in claim 1~~ comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, in which the variables X<sup>1</sup> to X<sup>6</sup> in the sequence have the following meanings:

X<sup>1</sup> = Asn;

X<sup>2</sup> = Gln, Glu or Arg;

X<sup>3</sup> = Gly, Thr or Tyr;

X<sup>4</sup> = Asn or Arg;

X<sup>5</sup> = Gly or Lys;

X<sup>6</sup> = Cys.

Claim 6. (currently amended) A peptide ~~fragment having the sequence~~

— His Gln His Glu Gly Arg Cys Lys Glu Cys (SEQ ID NO: 2)

— His Asn His Arg Tyr Gly Cys Gly Cys Cys (SEQ ID NO: 3)

— His Arg His Gly Thr Asn Cys Leu Lys Cys (SEQ ID NO: 4)

— His Ile His Gln Ser Asn Cys Gln Val Cys (SEQ ID NO: 5)

comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 7. (new) A peptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 8. (new) A peptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

Claim 9. (new) A peptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.